## **ABSTRACT**

One embodiment of the invention provides a computer-implemented method for retrieving information from a knowledge base. In this embodiment, the method includes building a search request that contains a search query and a pattern having a set of attributes. The method further includes using the search request to retrieve information from the knowledge base. The retrieved information contains information associated with the search query. In addition, the retrieved information is associated with the set of attributes contained

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in the pattern.